Abstract

The present invention makes available methods and reagents for inhibiting aberrant growth states resulting from *hedgehog* gain-of-function, *ptc* loss-of-function or *smoothened* gain-of-function comprising contacting the cell with a *hedgehog* antagonist, such as a small molecule, in a sufficient amount to aberrant growth state, e.g., to agonize a normal *ptc* pathway or antagonize *smoothened* or *hedgehog* activity.